



CITY OF ROCKY FORD – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

June 27, 2023

WORK SESSION: 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Duane Gurule, Councilmembers Nicholas Martinez, Sherry Cordova, Nicole Roberts and Scott Kerr met to have discussion regarding 1% sales tax ballot measure.

Others present: J.R. Thompson, Gary Reed, and Diane Marshall

REGULAR MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

Rocky Ford City Council met in Council Chambers on Tuesday, June 27, 2023. Mayor Pro Tem Gurule called the meeting to order. Those present at roll call were:

Mayor Pro Tem: Duane Gurule

Councilmembers: Nicholas Martinez, Sherry Cordova, Nicole Roberts and Scott Kerr

Staff: City Clerk Rebecca Korinek, Economic Development Coordinator Marty Lee, Code Enforcement and Reserve Police Officer Natasha Ortiz, Police Officer Robert Powell, Deputy Police Chief Angelo Griego, Utility Clerk Mia Herrera, Captain Carol Coates, Sargeant Tim Moore and Pool Manager Deanna Bierbaum

Others present: J. R. Thompson, Gary Reed, Diane Marshall, Fair Manager Sally Cope, Chamber Manager Peggy Meyer, Ashley Venem, Jaime Gutierrez, Stephanie Jaramillo and Leonard Gonzales

Mayor Pro Tem Gurule led the pledge of allegiance.

Councilmember Roberts read aloud the City of Rocky Ford's Mission Statement

PUBLIC COMMENT

Diane Marshall reported that there is some graffiti at the old bathroom on play park hill and south of the museum. Marshall commented that red flashing lights on main street need to be fixed and also on Washington street. Marshall also reported to Council that use of city equipment if being used for personal use.

Fair Manager Sally Cope gave Council an update of the upcoming events for the Arkansas Valley Fair in August. Cope gave Council information on the adobe stalls at the fairground. Cope met with Katie Peterson with the Endangered Places Program. Peterson is working on putting something in place to repair the adobe stalls after the fair is over. Cope advised Council that the crow's nest, where pictures are taken, is in need of some repairs. The gate entrance to the pavilion is also going to be repaired. Otero County has donated some culvert to allow access to help maintain grass and weeds. The bucking chutes also need some repair and paint. Cope asked Council for additional trash totes for this year's fair.

A woman was on Zoom but we were unable to hear.

STAFF REPORTS

Library Director Leanna Chavez and Communications Dispatch Director June Ferraro submitted written reports for their departments.

Economic Development Coordinator Marty Lee and Code Enforcement/Reserve Police Officer Natasha Ortiz gave reports on projects that they are working on.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Shannon Wallace had previously emailed her report to Council as she is attending the Colorado Municipal League (CML) Conference.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Jung reported the following:

- Mayor Jung submitted a written report as she is attending the CML Conference.

Councilmember Gurule reported the following:

- The Swim Pool committee met on Sunday.
- Gurule has been commuting back and forth from the CML Conference.

Councilmember Martinez reported the following:

- Nothing to report for tonight's meeting. Tree Board Chair Diana Marshall gave Council information on tree board projects.

Councilmember Cordova reported the following:

- Cordova reported that the library board will be hosting a "fun day". Cordova informed all of upcoming events at the library.

Councilmember Roberts reported the following:

- Roberts attended a pension board meeting, but there was not a quorum.

Councilmember Kerr reported the following:

- Kerr reported some continued concerns and confusion with the museum board.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

Councilmember Roberts asked to remove the application for a special event permit submitted by the Danny Boy Foundation for Saturday, July 8, 2023, to new business 8.5.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Martinez moved to approve the agenda and consent agenda with the requested change. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cordova. Voting results were:

YES	Gurule, Cordova, Roberts, Kerr, Martinez
NO	None
ABSENT	Herrera and Mayor Jung

Motion carried 5-0

Consent Item(s) approved:

1. Approval of previous meeting minutes for June 13, 2023 minutes.
2. Application for (2) Special Event Permits – ***Danny Boy Foundation, at the Fairgrounds, 800 North 9th Street, Rocky Ford for Friday, July 21, 2023 from noon to 10 p.m. and Saturday, July 22, 2023 from noon to midnight.***

OLD BUSINESS

MOU with the Arkansas Valley Fair Board

All Councilmembers had previously received the proposed memorandum of understanding. Councilmember Martinez moved to authorize City Manager Wallace to submit the proposed MOU to the Arkansas Valley Fair Board. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Roberts. Voting results were:

YES	Gurule, Cordova, Roberts, Kerr, Martinez
NO	None
ABSENT	Herrera and Mayor Jung

Motion carried 5-0

New City Holiday Schedule Effective Date

This matter was discussed and voted on at the last regular meeting but the effective date was not determined. Much discussion was held. Councilmember Roberts moved to make the new city holiday schedule to be effective on January 1, 2024. Councilmember Martinez seconded the motion. Voting results were:

YES	Cordova, Roberts, Kerr, Martinez
NO	Gurule
ABSENT	Herrera and Mayor Jung

Motion carried 4-1

NEW BUSINESS

Pinning Ceremony – New Reserve Police Officer Natasha Ortiz

New Reserve Police Office Natasha Ortiz was pinned by her husband. Congratulations were given by Council and Public.

Jaclyn Dolin, 410 North 2nd Street – Wants to Discuss Payment Plans for Utility Bills

Ms. Dolin did not appear for tonight's meeting. Utility Clerk Mia Herrera informed Council that Ms. Dolin had already paid her delinquent bill. Some discussion was held. Council would like to discuss this matter at a work session in the future.

Tobacco – Memorandum of Understanding Approval

Councilmember Roberts moved to authorize and approve the memorandum of understanding between the Otero County Health Department and the City of Rocky Ford. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cordova. Voting results were:

YES	Roberts, Kerr, Martinez, Gurule, Cordova
NO	None
ABSENT	Herrera and Mayor Jung

Motion carried 5-0

Approval of Pool Rules and Regulations

Pool Manager Deanna Bierbaum gave Council information regarding some incidents that happened at the swim pool and the need to have rules and regulation in place. Some discussion was held. Councilmember Roberts moved to approve the City of Rocky Ford Swimming Pool Rules and Regulations. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Martinez. Voting results were:

YES	Kerr, Martinez, Gurule, Cordova, Roberts
NO	None
ABSENT	Herrera and Mayor Jung

Motion carried 5-0

Application for Special Event Permit – Danny Boy Foundation at 907 Railroad, for Saturday, July 8, 2023 from noon to midnight

Leonard Gonzales from Len's Tavern addressed Council and gave information about an upcoming event in front of Len's Tavern. Much discussion was held regarding a prior rental of the Gobin Building and whether or not the requested event will interfere with parking or noise level. Councilmember Cordova moved to approve and authorize the special event permit from the **Danny Boy Foundation at 907 Railroad Avenue on Saturday, July 8, 2023 from noon to midnight**. Councilmember Martinez seconded the motion. Voting results were:

YES	Martinez, Gurule, Cordova, Roberts, Kerr
NO	None
ABSENT	Herrera and Mayor Jung

Motion carried - 5-0

PUBLIC COMMENT

Richard Baca gave comment about repaving and new paving is throwing the road off grade and the integrity of the drainage.

J.R. Thompson asked if the city is running the mosquito sprayer.

ADJOURN

Councilmember Martinez moved to adjourn and there being no further business, Mayor Pro Tem Gurule adjourned the regular meeting at 8:43 p.m.


Susan Jung, Mayor

Attest:  Rebecca Korinek, City Clerk

